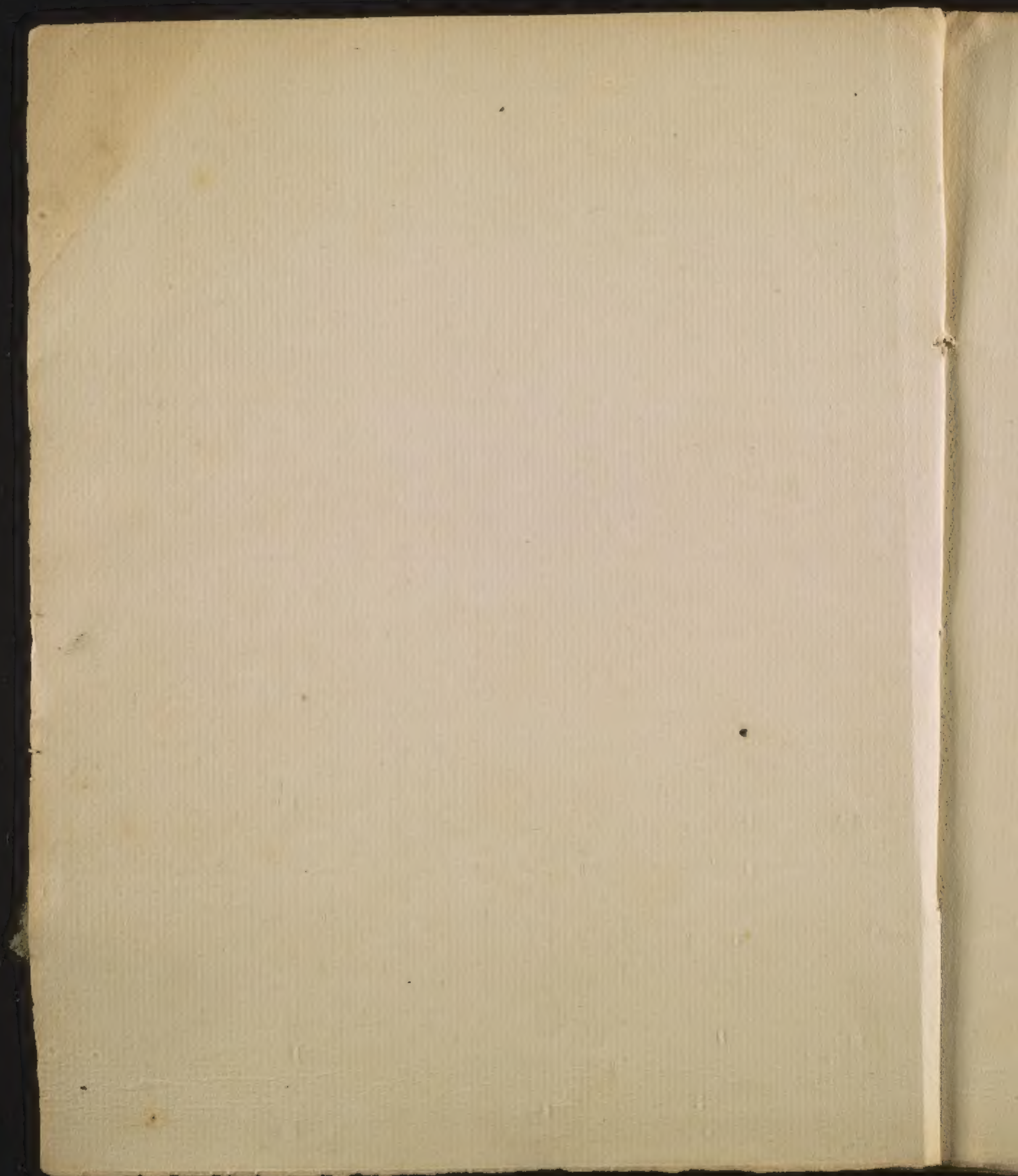


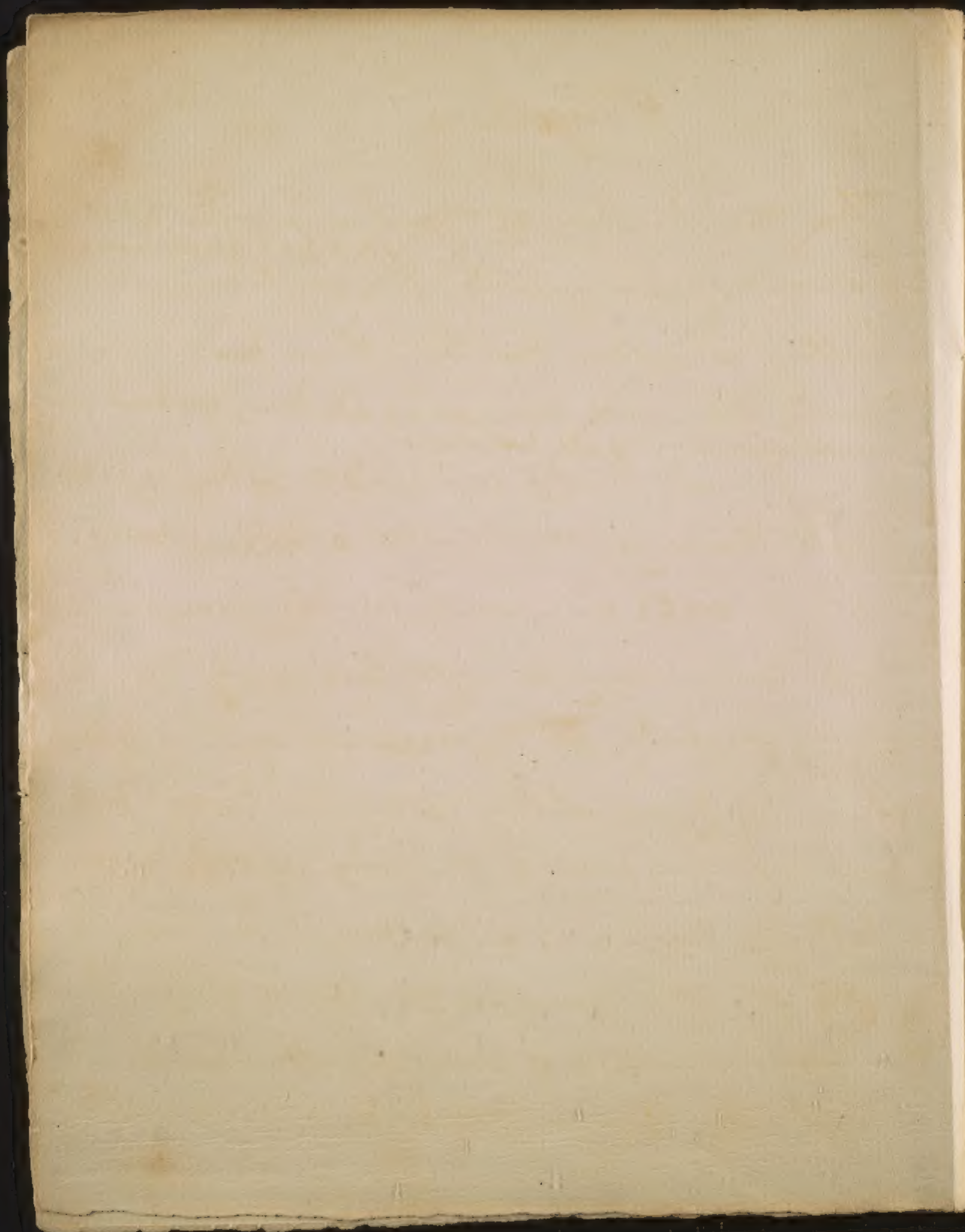
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RUSH Box 6

On Hysteria.





Of Hysteria.

For the history of the symptoms of this Disease, I refer you to ^{Dr Rich: Blackmore} Dr Sydenham, and Dr Cullen who have described them not only correctly, but with eloquence. It is an epitome, or concentration of all disease.

I shall briefly enumerate some of its most striking peculiarities and symptoms.

1 It is seated primarily in the nerves, muscles, alimentary Canal, but rarely affects the blood vessels. In this respect only it differs from the Gout which affects the blood vessels with all those parts of the body which are affected by Hysteria, or perhaps it is more proper to say it is Gout in the form of muslin or tiffany instead of broad cloth, for it is brought on by the operation of most of the

V the cessation of the menses, but I have
never ~~found~~ seen it in two sisters, the
one but two, and the other but six years
old. It remarkable ~~its effects~~ even an
apparently robust constitution does not
protect women from it.

#3 The Hysteria appears in a chronic form without
intermissions

4 It appears in paroxysms with a perfect freedom
from all its symptoms in its intervals.

The paroxysms are more severe in this
case than when they are followed by the

chronic form of the disease.

Causes that induce Gout acting only upon
 the nervous, muscular & alimentary predispo-
 sitions. ~~When it affects the blood vessels, & the life~~
~~of the first settlement of new in-~~
~~called it "Gouta plethorica"~~
 I find it was common to ascribe all anomalous
 diseases to witchcraft. ~~In modern times all~~
~~diseases like these are~~
~~ascribed to anomalous diseases are ascribed~~
 to the Gout

2 It affects women more than men, in the
 progression of the disease and that in con-
 sequence of the nerves, muscles & alimentary
 canal possessing more predisposition ^{in women} to be acted
 upon by irritants than the same parts in
 men. It appears chiefly between puberty, and

3 It appears in ^{paroxysms, and with chronic} ~~a chronic form with~~
 symptoms in its intervals. ~~paroxysms.~~

~~4 It appears in paroxysms and with~~
~~chronic symptoms in its intervals.~~

5 It appears in paroxysms, with a perfect

✓ likewise in appearing in paroxysms,
4 in imperfect and perfect intermissions.

2 freedom from all its symptoms in its inter-
3 The paroxysms in this case are more severe
-vats. ~~In this case the~~
than when they are followed by chronic symptoms.

You will perceive here a striking illus-
-tration of the Unity or Sameness of disease in
two different systems. The Hysteria you see
conforms exactly to the fever in being accom-
-panied with paroxysms, remissions only,
and intermissions. It avoids with the gout
5 The mind under all the forms of Hysteria
that have been described is capricious, and
fickle and that to such a degree (to use the
words of Dr Sydenham) as to be constant only
in inconstancy, a disposition to weep and
laugh upon the most trifling occasions belongs
to the hysterical ^{predisposition} ~~constitution~~. It is because
children and old people possess to much of this
predisposition that they weep more readily &
easily than persons in adult life. A disposition

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 to laugh ~~is equally~~ upon occasions that ~~do not~~
 not to excite laughter belongs likewise to
 this ~~constant~~ predisposition. ~~This predisposition~~ It is
 so deeply seated in some people as to elude the
 command of their wills, and to appear in
 places that do not accord with it. The Rev.
 Mr. Duhe formerly an eloquent & popular preacher
 in this city was so forcibly affected
 with this predisposition in the last years of his
 life, that he laughed at every thing he said
 or did. Even in middle life his wife informed
 me he was often obliged to pinch himself
 severely in the pulpit, in order to prevent
 his laughing at some trifling object that occurred
 to his eyes or his imagination.

If I have said this disease rarely affects the blood
 vessels. When it does, which is sometimes the
 case in its paroxysms, it is a suspension
 of the faculties of the mind ~~into place in a transient~~
~~state of derangement.~~

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3 of ~~the~~ the hysterical symptoms generally
follows. This translation of the disease to the
blood vessels may be known by the pulse.
Dr Whist mentions a case of this kind in
a lady of 30 years of age who was affected with
hysteria in whom the disease ceased as soon
as her pulse became full & active. This
change in her pulse was induced by a
translation of ~~sanbid~~ excitement ^{to the blood vessels of the brain,} for she
became at the same time ^{delirious} ~~manic~~. In
mania ^{succeeded by} the ~~symptoms~~ of hysteria ^{most} ~~which~~
& sometimes all its symptoms cease ~~at once~~
with the coming on of that disease of the
brain, and it is unashable the hysteria
after returns with the cessation of mania.
While I thus confine hysteria to the nervous
arterial & alimentary systems I beg you

✓ here between a fullness, and a convulsive
action or force in the blood vessels. The former
often exists with all the symptoms of Hypo-
-teria. It has been called by Dr Cullen
Hysteria plethorica.

would suggest that it sometimes blends itself with all the other Systems in the body. In a paroxysm of Hysteria every fibre of every System in the body is brought into combine Sympathy with the Nervous, muscular & alimentary Systems, and even in cases of every kind, we sometimes meet with a disorganizing & false perplexing mixture of hysterical Symptoms. You will distinguish

7 The Hysteria is sometimes suspended by the coming on of a canine appetite ^{for food,} ~~the~~ less than by the coming on of madness, & from the same cause, - that is the Absorption or attraction of the Disease from its ordinary seats to the stomach.

8 It is distinguished from Epilepsy ^{by not} ~~but~~ affecting the blood vessels, and by its paroxysms rarely affecting the ^{regular} ~~understanding~~ exercises

✓ ~~in the system~~ ^{only} derived ^{chiefly} from
the nerves which issue from the medulla
spinalis instead of the brain, it might
be called ~~Spinal Epilepsy~~.

7 M is being induced by corporeal as well as
mental causes. Hippocordiasis is
induced chiefly, or perhaps only by mental
causes.

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of the mind. In short it is Epilepsy in all the systems
except the blood vessels, ~~from the blood vessels~~ ✓
9 It is distinguished from Hypochondriasis
or Tristitia

1 By depending upon instability of the nervous sys-
tem, that is ^{a mixture of} ~~an~~ excess of sensibility & irrita-
-bility. Hypochondriasis depends upon torpor
or stupor, and sometimes upon a mixture
of both in the nervous system.

2 By affecting men more than women.
3 By the Absence of the Globus hystericus &
Dyspepsia.

5 By being worse in warm weather, & most

common in warm climates. & that rarely.

6 By being attended only with transient alienation of mind.

W I have followed the neurologists in believing
these diagnostic marks of these two diseases of
the nervous system, but take notice, they
often blend their symptoms with each other,
& they even & then alternate with each other.
Hysteria sometimes moreover precedes, and

✓ There is some cases of hysteria a constant
Spice of hypochondriac gloom, and in others
a constant spice of levity, ~~with~~ which dis-
-covers itself in the body and mind being
always primed for mirth or a fit of laughter.

8
again, ^{it} succeeds Hippochondriasis. Once more

The remote causes of Hysteria are corporeal & mental. The former are obstructions of the menses, or an inordinate flow of them - fluxus ^{an acid humor of any kind, worms &} Albus, - Obstructed Viscera, - Strong Drink, strong tea. It is from the general use of the two last of those causes that it prevails as much in Kitchens and in humble life, as in ~~the~~ ^{the} Chambers of the ~~for~~ higher ranks of Society. Its mental causes are anger, malice, envy, jealousy, and strong venereal desires.

Its exciting causes are the sudden operation of ~~any of~~ its remote causes, and in addition to them - offensive smells, impure air, fatigue, and the sudden emotions of terror, joy, and surprise.

The Hysteria is seldom a fatal disease in its simple state, but from its frequent visits, and to other Systems ~~it~~ and particularly to the Viscera, it often brings on other diseases which terminate in death.

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For a ^{more} complete history of one of its paroxysms
and of its chronic symptoms I refer you to
the writings of Dr Sydenham, Drullen, and
Sir Richard Blackmore. I shall give you a
Summary of one in order the better to enable
you to understand the theory of the disease

The symptoms of a paroxysm of Hysteria
are a rumbling noise in the belly, a sense of
a globe ascending from the abdomen to the
stomach and fauces, accompanied with a
sense of strangulation - a cold sensation upon
the crown of the head called Clavus hystericus,
- a like sensation of cold along the back -
laughing, screaming, sobbing, crying,
convulsive motions of the limbs, or of the
whole body, ^{titanus} pale urine, - stupor, ~~from~~ ^{depressed}
apparent asphyxia in which state the

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patient sometimes lies for 10 or 15 minutes
and then and then longer, and from which
she emerges with crying, sobbing, convulsions
in the limbs, clinched hands and teeth, &
finally with a deep groan succeeded by silence
which closes the paroxysm.

Sometimes a paroxysm of Hysteria comes
on with an exquisite pain in the head, back,
thorax and arms which extends after a
while to the limbs, where it produces ~~a tender~~ ^{an}
hysterical Rheumatism which continues
after the cessation of the fit for several days
or weeks. ~~It~~ ^{It} differs from common Rheu-
matism by affecting the skin, membranes
& muscles only and never the joints, or liga-
ments. —

Again - a paroxysm sometimes comes
on with convulsions resembling Epilepsy, &
a sudden swelling of the belly from which
Wind issues upwards & downwards with

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a great noise. These symptoms are preceded
by more or less of the symptoms before descri-
bed. —

The symptoms of Chronic Hysteria,
or of imperfect intermissions are head ache, verti-
go, flatulency, colic, Colic morbus, cough,
dyspnea, palpitation of the heart, Ischuria,
Lumbago, Rheumatism, coldness of the feet,
crum of the head and back, Swellings of the
face, ^{throat &} ~~base~~ legs ~~and~~ resembling dropsy, but
differing from them in being transient, &
in ^{being most obvious} ~~giving more appearance~~ in the morn-
-ing instead of the evening — a fatiguation,
numbness of the limbs, ^{if sometimes} palsy, ^{and} apoplexy, ^{and} epi-

All these symptoms are more or
less painful & distressing according to the
greater, or less degree in which the
Hysteria invades other systems, besides

✓ ~~4 The Hysteria appears in a chronic form without paroxysms.~~

~~5 It appears in paroxysms, but with a perfect freedom from all its symptoms in its intervals. The paroxysms in this case are more severe than when they are followed by the chronic form of the disease.~~

the nerves, and particularly the blood vessels.
 All these diseases differ from diseases of the
 same name only by making a more
 deep impression upon the parts in which they
 are seated. They resemble ^{paintings with} ~~plain pictures~~
 Water Colors instead of Oil. ~~It is only when~~
 they extend to the blood vessels & substance of
 the viscera, they ~~are~~ may be said to be
~~fixed~~ fixed with Oil Colors upon the
 System.

I said formerly in treating upon the
 nervous system, that sympathies were more
 prompt and extensive between the different
 parts of the nerves, than any other of the sys-
 tems of the body. This accounts for the great
 variety of ~~the~~ ^{various} ~~various~~ ^{various} in them when they are
 diseased. They have been compared to the
 agitations of the Ocean of the East Wind.

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~~Disease which terminates in death. The disease~~
~~thus induced partake of all ^{the same nature} the properties~~
~~as if they had been brought on by other causes,~~
~~and require the same treatment.~~

The Remedies for this disease divide
 themselves into two parts.

I such as are proper in its paroxysms, &
 II such as are proper in its intervals, or when
 it exists without paroxysms.

To the Ist head belong

1 Bleeding when the fibre is full, or when
 there is reason to believe the system is plethoric.
 This is generally the case when it occurs in
 women in whom the venues have been recently
 obstructed, and in ~~poor~~ women of good appetites.
 It is the more necessary if the brain and reason
 be affected.

2 The pilularium. 3 Garlic or mustard to the

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4 Stimulating and opening injections. A solution of Apapetida in water, also Liquid Ammonium are in some cases useful additions to them.

5 As a great deal of the pain of a patient arises from air pent up in the bowels, it should be discharged by fixing a glass pipe in the anus. Such is the force of the ^{force of the} retrograde motion of the intestines, that the Spincter ani has been known to snap off the pipe, and to draw it several inches up the bowels.

6 Stimulating Odors applied to the nose such as Spirit of hartshorn, burnt feathers, and Apapetida. A physician in New England after having tried the above odors to no purpose, pulled off his boot, and applied his ^{toe} ~~foot~~ smothering with the ^{feet} ~~foot~~ sweat of his feet to the nose of his patient. He immediately recovered. The

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more common odors had probably lost their effects from habit.

If all these remedies should fail, and the Disease should assume as it sometimes does the form of asphyxia

7 Cold water should be thrown upon the face, or dropped upon the upper lip, and the soles of the feet, and nostrils should be tickled. These gentle stimuli often do service, after more powerful ones have been used to no purpose.

8 Liquid Laudanum combined with the Tincture of Asafetida should be given as soon as the patient is able to swallow. Cloves & water have been found useful in discharging wind from the stomach.

II The Remedies proper to be administered in the intervals of the disease should be regulated

V It will be highly proper to begin the
cure by the removal of all its remote &
existing causes. —

by the state of the system. ¹⁶ If the blood vessels are
plethoric, or if there is ~~an~~ reason to believe the
disease has been induced by an acid humor of
any kind irritating the bowels ^{primarily,} and the nerves
by sympathy, or the nerves primarily, the Remedies
should be occasional bleeding, and Abster-
gents in the former case, and a diet consisting
of ~~barley~~ ^{or} Runnet Whey in the latter. Dr
Sydenham cured an obstinate case of ~~barley~~ ^{Hysteria}
by ~~barley~~ a milk diet, and Dr. Tissot a similar
one by Runnet Whey. The same simple and
mild diet is ~~usually~~ equally proper in those
cases in which the nerves are too irritable
to bear the stimulus of any other kind of
food. I am satisfied that we often fail of
curing Hysteria from inattention to the
three causes of it which have been mentioned.

In cases where the intervals between
the paroxysms are not accompanied with

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any disordered Actions in the Nerves, and other
 parts of the system, the Remedies should be
 2^d Tonics. These should be the cordial gums,
 such as Apafatida, galbanum, myrrh, and Sa-
 -gapenum. The Apafatida is the most active
 of them. It may be given in pills, tincture or
 watery infusion.

2 Bitters of all kinds. I have not found Bark
 as useful in giving tone to the nervous system
 as might be expected. Its tonic virtues are
 felt chiefly by the Arterial system.

3 Certain metals. These are the ^{common} preparations
 of Iron, Copper Zinc and lead. Iron in large
 doses is perhaps preferable to any of them.
 It is particularly useful when the disease
 is occasioned, or accompanied with Worms.
 4 Stimulating applications to the belly, such
 as the Volatile Liniment, Spirit of Turpen-
 -tine & Sweet Oil, and plasters of Apafatida,

✓ Same Applications to the Spine.

gallanum, and Burgundy pitch, also the
 5 Bandages bound tight around the belly &
 limbs. They give tone to the muscular system.
 I have twice known them used with great
 Advantage. They were first suggested by Vals-
 written.

6 a cordial diet consisting chiefly of salted meat,
 with vegetables, and a moderate quantity of
 white wine or porter. The low & acid wines
 and acids of all kinds should be avoided.
 They all tend to destroy the ^{natural contractile} ~~sensibility~~ ~~and~~
~~to induce a morbid~~ ^{activity} of the nervous system,
 and to induce in it a morbid irritability.

7 Exercise especially on horseback & labor. The
 latter is a radical remedy in this disease. Hun-
 dred of women who have been compelled
 to labour in consequence of being reduced in
 their circumstances have been cured by it.

✓ Lady Rachel Russet was cured of an hypo:
-tical head ache of long standing by the
grain which followed the execution of her
much beloved husband Lord W^m Russet.

Remember in the use of all these remedies to
 attend frequently to the pulse. All the above
 tonic remedies will be hurtful ^{unless} ~~unless~~ they
 are given in a ~~reduced~~ ^{flaccid} state of the arterial
 system, or in other words when the nerves
 & blood vessels are ^{not} ~~not~~ stimulated with each other.
 When the pulse from any cause becomes
 and the patient feverish, ^{excited} ~~excited~~, leave off your tonics until by bleeding
 or purges or low diet you have reduced it
 them to a par of excitement with the nerves.
 & the excitement of some steady passion. I have
 cured by fixing the mind to one subject have
 often cured Hysteria. I have several times
 known it cured by the death of a child in an
 hysterical mother. Dr. Cullen used to tell his pupils
 that the Hysteria was scarcely known in Scotland
 during the Rebellion in the year 1745 for
 during that time every woman in the

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Country was under the influence of fear for the fate of a husband, a son or a brother in the Royal or rebel Army. But where it is impracticable or unsafe to excite these steady passions, some steady pursuit ~~or~~ or employment may be substituted in their room.

I once heard the Rev^d Mr Whitefield say that the wife of an Apothecary in London was perfectly cured of Hysteria by ^{burning of} ~~her~~ ~~waiting~~ ~~her~~ duties of ~~her~~ his Church. The principles and duties of ~~his~~ his Society ~~dissipated~~ by the force of their impressions ~~of~~ ~~upon~~ ~~her~~ ~~system~~ ~~dissipated~~ all impressions of a more false nature and thus gave tone to her ^{her own} system. Religious duties and ceremonies of all kinds are calculated to have the same effect. They act upon the body thro' the medium of the mind. But domestic duties and exercises are happily calculated to ~~produce~~ impart a similar

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tone to the nervous system. A Diary, a garden,
 a kitchen, a nursery, a domestic manufactory
 or care of any kind ~~of any kind~~ ^{are} all powerful remedies
 for this disease. ~~Case of any kind is a medicine~~
 A lady in this city who
 was much afflicted with hysteria from the
 want of employment, once asked a sensible
 female friend, "What she should do to get rid of
 all her diseases and distempers"? "Go (said she)
 and fall down upon your knees & ask the
 Almighty to for some real trouble, and that
 will cure you of all your imaginary diseases
 and distempers".

9 A change of climate. A cold climate should
 be preferred to a warm one.

10 Marriage if our patient be single.
 I am aware this remedy is forbidden by
 Dr. Sydenham, Sydenham, and Mandeville, but it must
 have been in women ~~to~~ debilitated ~~to~~



below the power of that, or perhaps any other
 remedy. I have known it produce the most
 salutary effects, and more especially where it
 has been followed by child bearing. ~~It has been~~
~~the cause of this function.~~ This will easily be
 understood when you recollect how much the
 Arterial diseases of pregnancy attracts mor-
 bid excitement from the nervous system.
 Few women who bear children are ever
 troubled with this disease.

A long and faithful perseverance ^{for months or years,} in
 the use of all the Remedies that have been men-
 tioned is indispensably necessary to cure the
 Hysteria. In short our business is not
 so much to cure a disease, as to change
 the constitution by removing its predispo-
 sition to it. It is in this way it is some-
 times cured by time without the aid

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80 of medicine of any kind, but it much oftener
 ends in Hypochondriasis by the nerves wear-
 -ing themselves down from a laxum to
 a strictum state. Sometimes it terminates in
 organic diseases such as palsy, Apoplexy, Epilep-
 -sy, ^{which it only counterfeits for a while,} ~~madness~~, ^{Hydrocephalus internus, Hepaticula} ~~sublunary~~ ^{consumption} and
 Dropsy. ~~When~~ It is common to apply the
 epithet hysterical to these diseases, but
 this is improper, for no sooner ~~do~~ do they
 make their appearance than the hysteria
 generally ceases. It should be considered as
 the remote cause only of all those organic
 diseases, and they should all be treated as if
 they had originated from more ordinary
 causes.

